

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Amy Schmid on April 14, 2008 and April 28, 2008 in light of the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.312 mailed on 03/20/2008.

The amendment to claim 35 to correct a typographical error in the last line with respect to change the term "nitrate" to –nitrite- is entered.

By applicants request "that the Examiner provides a Supplemental Notice of Allowance correcting the Reasons for Allowance, specifically, to refer to "nitrite ion" rather than "nitrate ion" is persuasive.

Therefore, the paragraph 2 in the **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE** is:

The claimed invention is a solid reagent comprising an organic polymer base in which a graft polymer side chain is introduced onto the backbone of the organic polymer base, wherein the graft polymer side chain has a formula (I) specified in the independent claim 35 or formula (II) specified in the independent claim 36, and wherein in each formulae (I) and (II) the X⁻ is a reactive functional group selected from the group

consisting of hypochlorite ion, periodate ion, peroxide ion, chlorate ion, dichromate ion, perruthenate ion, tetrahydroborate ion, cyanotrihydroborate ion, tribromide ion, cyanide ion, thiocyanate ion, azide ion and nitrite ion.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OLGA ASINOVSKY whose telephone number is (571)272-1066. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

O.A.
April 30, 2008

/Randy Gulakowski/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796